

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 05194 082022Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 /053 W
-----110956 090626Z /13
R 081624Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 945
INFO USMISSION NATO
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 5194

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, PINT, SP
SUBJECT: THE APPOINTMENT OF LT. GEN. GUTIERREZ MELLADO AS DEFENSE
MINISTER

REF: MADRID 5084

1. REFTEL SUGGESTED THAT, IN TAKING OVER THE NEW
DEFENSE MINISTRY, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEFENSE
MATTERS GUTIERREZ MELLADO HAD ASKED TO BE PASSED TO THE
SEMI-ACTIVE "CATEGORY B" STATUS. IT NOW APPEARS THAT
GUTIERREZ MELLADO IN FACT HAS REQUESTED HIS TRANSFER
TO RESERVE STATUS. RESERVE STATUS IN SPAIN IS, FOR
GENERAL OFFICERS, FOR ALL PRACICAL PURPOSES THE
EQUIVALENT OF RETIREMENT.

2. ASKED BY AN INTERVIEWER WHY HE HAD MADE THIS
REQUEST TO PASS TO RESERVE STATUS, GUTIEREZ MELLADO
RESPONDED: QTE AS YOU CAN UNDERSTAND, DECIDING TO
REQUEST TRANSFER TO RESERVE STATUS, WHICH, AS YOU
KNOW, IS IRREVERSIBLE, HAS MEANT FOR ME A DIFFICULT
SACRIFICE, SINCE IT RESPRESENTS NOT BEING ABLE AGAIN
TO CARRY OUT AN ACTIVE MILITARY ASSIGNMENT. IS SPITE
OF THIS, I HAVE FELT, AND I SO EXPALINED TO HIS MAJESTY
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THE KING, THAT BY DOING THIS I CAN CARRY OUT WITH
GREATER INDEPENDENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS THE HIGH
RESPONSIBILITIES THAT HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED TO ME AND
CAN CONTRIBUTE TO DISTINGUISH MORE CLEARLY THE POLITICO-
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION FROM THAT OF MILITARY COMMAND.
END QTE.STABLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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